

## Claims:

1. A method for correcting humidity measurement results of a radiosonde in respect to errors resulting from radiative heat exchange, the radiosonde comprising at least a humidity sensor and a temperature sensor, characterised in that the method comprises the steps of:
  - 5 determining correction values for humidity measurement results in different environmental conditions, said correction values being organized in a beforehand formed (10) data structure (20) or calculated by means of a beforehand determined mathematical function, said environmental conditions being determined as a function of at least one environmental conditions parameter, said environmental conditions parameter being a variable having an effect in the environment of the humidity sensor and said correction values being determined so that they correct errors resulting from radiative heat exchange,
  - 10 measuring (12) environmental humidity  $U_m$  with said humidity sensor,
  - 15 determining a current value of at least one environmental conditions parameter,
  - 20 measuring (11) the environmental temperature  $T_T$  with said temperature sensor,
  - 25 calculating (13) humidity sensor temperature  $T_U$ , by means of said measured environmental temperature  $T_T$  and said correction values, which are differences  $\Delta T_U$  between the measured environmental temperature  $T_T$  and the humidity sensor temperature  $T_U$  and correspond to the determined current value of said at least one environmental conditions parameter, and
  - 30 calculating (14) error-corrected humidity  $U$  by means of the calculated humidity sensor temperature  $T_U$ , the measured environmental temperature  $T_T$  and the measured environmental humidity  $U_m$ .
2. A method according to claim 1, characterised in that said environmental conditions parameter relates to at least one variable affecting the humidity

measurement result, such as pressure, environmental temperature, humidity, location altitude of the radiosonde, sounding time of the radiosonde, intensity of solar radiation, solar elevation angle, location of the radiosonde on the globe or ascending speed of the radiosonde.

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3. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, **characterised in that** said differences  $\Delta T_U$  between the environmental temperature  $T_T$  and the humidity sensor temperature  $T_U$  are determined based on comparison  
10 measurements.
4. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, **characterised in that** said differences  $\Delta T_U$  between the environmental temperature  $T_T$  and the humidity sensor temperature  $T_U$  are determined as a function of air pressure  $P$   
15 and solar elevation angle  $h$ .
5. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, **characterised in that** said differences  $\Delta T_U$  between the environmental temperature  $T_T$  and the humidity sensor temperature  $T_U$  are determined as a function of saturation  
20 humidity  $rh$  dependent on temperature and of air pressure  $P$ .
6. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, **characterised in that** the method comprises
  - 25 error-correcting the measured environmental temperature  $T_T$  before calculating the humidity sensor temperature  $T_U$ , and
  - using the error-corrected environmental temperature  $T_T$  in calculating the humidity sensor temperature  $T_U$  and the error-corrected humidity  $U$ .
7. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, **characterised in that** the humidity sensor temperature  $T_U$  is calculated in the following way:  
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$$T_U = T_T + k_U \cdot \Delta T_U, \text{ in which}$$

$T_T$  = environmental temperature measured with temperature sensor advantageously error-corrected,

$k_U$  = ventilation factor in relation to a nominal value, and

$\Delta T_U$  = difference between environmental temperature and humidity sensor temperature in current environmental conditions.

5 8. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the error-corrected humidity  $U$  is determined in the following way:

$$U = \frac{e(T_T)}{e_w(T_T)} \cdot 100 = \frac{e_w(T_U)}{e_w(T_T)} \cdot U_m, \text{ in which}$$

10  $T_T$  = environmental temperature measured with temperature sensor advantageously error-corrected,

$T_U$  = humidity sensor temperature,

$U_m$  = measured humidity,

$e_w(T_U)$  = partial pressure of saturated water vapour in temperature  $T_U$ ,

15  $e_w(T_T)$  = partial pressure of saturated water vapour in temperature  $T_T$ , and

$e(T_T)$  = actual vapour pressure in temperature  $T_T$ .

9. A data processing device (30) for correcting humidity measurement results of a radiosonde in respect to errors resulting from radiative heat exchange, the 20 radiosonde comprising at least a humidity sensor and a temperature sensor, characterised by the data processing device comprising:

25 a memory (33) comprising correction values for humidity measurement results in different environmental conditions, said correction values being organized in a beforehand formed data structure (35) or calculated by means of a beforehand determined mathematical function stored in the memory (33), said environmental conditions being determined as a function of said at least one environmental conditions parameter, said environmental conditions parameter being a variable having an effect in the environment of the humidity sensor and said correction values being determined so that they correct errors resulting from radiative heat exchange,

receiving means (32) for receiving environmental humidity  $U_m$  measured with said humidity sensor and receiving environmental temperature  $T_T$  measured with said temperature sensor and receiving the current value of at least one environmental conditions parameter, and

5 calculation means (31, 34) for calculating the humidity sensor temperature  $T_U$  by means of said measured environmental temperature  $T_T$  and said correction values, which are differences  $\Delta T_U$  between the measured environmental temperature  $T_T$  and the humidity sensor temperature  $T_U$  and correspond to the current value of said at least one environmental conditions  
10 parameter and for calculating error-corrected humidity  $U$  by means of the calculated humidity sensor temperature  $T_U$ , the measured environmental temperature  $T_T$  and the measured environmental humidity  $U_m$ .

10. A data processing device according to claim 9, **characterised** in that said data  
15 processing device is located in said radiosonde.

11. A computer program which provides a routine for correcting humidity measurement results of a radiosonde in respect to errors resulting from radiative heat exchange when running said computer program, the radiosonde comprising at least a humidity sensor and a temperature sensor, and said computer program communicating with  
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25 a memory comprising correction values for humidity measurement results in different environmental conditions, said correction values being organized in a beforehand formed data structure or calculated by means of a beforehand determined mathematical function stored in the memory, said environmental conditions being determined as a function of at least one environmental conditions parameter, said environmental conditions parameter being a variable having an effect in the environment of the humidity sensor and said correction values being determined so that they correct errors resulting from radiative heat exchange, said computer program comprising:  
30 a program code for receiving environmental humidity  $U_m$  measured with

said humidity sensor and receiving environmental temperature  $T_T$  measured with said temperature sensor and receiving the current value of at least one environmental conditions parameter, and

5           a program code for calculating the humidity sensor temperature  $T_U$  by means of the measured environmental temperature  $T_T$  and said correction values, which are differences  $\Delta T_U$  between the measured environmental temperature  $T_T$  and the humidity sensor temperature  $T_U$  and correspond to the current value of said at least one environmental conditions parameter and for calculating error-corrected humidity  $U$  by means of the calculated humidity  
10           sensor temperature  $T_U$ , the measured environmental temperature  $T_T$  and the measured environmental humidity  $U_m$ .

12. A computer program according to claim 11, stored in a storage medium.